D. Wille 6/29/01

PATENT

Attorney Docket: 044198.0000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Frank H. Portugal

Appl. No.: 09/027,439

Filed: February 20, 1998

For: C

Compositions and Methods for

Differnetiating Among Shigella Species and Shigella from E. coli

Species

Art Unit: 1655

Examiner: J. Souaya

Certificate of Transmission

I certify that this paper and the attached CPA Request Transmittal Form and any other atachments or enclosures identified are being transmitted by facsimile to (703) 305-3014 addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

On June 20, 2001

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request an Examiner's Interview. Applicants will contact the Examiner shortly after the filing of this paper to arrange a convenient date and time.

Amendment

Prior to examination, please amend application as follows:

signed: Frank Portugal

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 40-44, without prejudice or disclaimer.

polication No. 09/027,489 Attorney Docket No.: 044198.0000

No other fees, extension of time fees, or requests for extension of time are believed to be necessary to enter and consider this paper and keep this application pending. If, however, any extensions of time are required or any fees are due in order to enter or consider this paper or enter or consider any paper accompanying this paper, including fees for net addition of claims, applicant hereby requests any extensions or petitions necessary and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the credit card previously used for any fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 20, 2001

By: